

CLAIMS

1. Use of an inulin-type fructan for the manufacture of a cosmetic rinse-off composition for the treatment of the hair and/or the skin, characterised in that the rinse-off composition, apart from conventional ingredients of rinse-off compositions in conventional amounts, comprises from 0.10 to 5 10% of the inulin-type fructan (% in weight percent dry matter, calculated on the total weight of the rinse-off composition), and is free from (i) cationic polymeric conditioning agents, (ii) terpolymers composed of a monomer consisting of a carboxylic acid containing an  $\alpha,\beta$ -mono-ethylenic unsaturation, a non-ionic monomer bearing a urethane group, and a non-surfactant monomer with mono-ethylenic unsaturation which is different from the first 15 mentioned monomer, (hereinafter "terpolymers"), and (iii) polysaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan.
2. Use according to claim 1, characterised in that the rinse-off composition is also free from monosaccharides and from 20 di- and oligosaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, apart from the mono- and disaccharides that naturally occur in inulin-type fructan.
3. Use according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterised in that 25 the inulin-type fructan is used as conditioning agent.
4. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is used as a complete substitute for cationic polymeric conditioning agents in conventional rinse-off compositions.
5. Use according to anyone of claims 1 to 4, characterised in 30 that the rinse-off composition contains the inulin-type fructan at a concentration from 0.5 to 5%.
6. Use according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is oligofructose.
7. Use according to claim 6, characterised in that the 35 oligofructose has a DP ranging from 2 to 9.

8. Use according to claim 6, characterised in that the oligofructose as a DP ranging from 3 to 5.
9. Use according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is inulin.
- 5 10. Use according to claim 9, characterised in that the inulin has a DP ranging from 2 to 100.
11. Use according to claim 9, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is chicory inulin with a DP ranging from 2 to 70.
- 10 12. Use according to claim 9, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is inulin from agave, Jerusalem artichoke or dahlia.
13. Process for the manufacture of a cosmetic rinse-off composition, characterised in that 0.10% to 10% weight (calculated on the total weight of the rinse-off composition) of an inulin-type fructan defined in anyone of claims 1 and 6 to 12, water and one or more other components constituted by one or more ingredients in conventional amounts of conventional rinse-off compositions, with the exception of
- 15 20 (i) cationic polymeric conditioning agents, (ii) terpolymers as defined in claim 1, and (iii) polysaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, are co-mixed.
14. Process according to claim 13, characterised in that neither the inulin-type fructan component nor said other components include monosaccharides or di- and oligosaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, apart from the mono- and disaccharides that naturally occur in inulin-type fructan.
- 25 30 15. Process according to claim 13 or claim 14, characterised in that it involves co-mixing of one or more components or part of said components with one or more premix compositions that contain the remaining components and/or the complementary part of the former components, or co-mixing of two or more pre-mix compositions.

16. Cosmetic rinse-off composition, characterised in that it contains from 0.10% to 10% weight (calculated on the total weight of the rinse-off composition) of an inulin-type fructan defined in any one of claims 6 to 12, water and one or more other components constituted by one or more ingredients in conventional amounts of conventional cosmetic rinse-off compositions, with the exception of (i) cationic polymeric conditioning agents, (ii) terpolymers as defined in claim 1, and (iii) polysaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan.

5 17. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 16, characterised in that the rinse-off composition is also free from monosaccharides and from di- and oligosaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, apart from the mono-  
10 and disaccharides that naturally occur in inulin-type fructan.

15 18. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 16 or claim 17, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is oligofructose.

20 19. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 16 or claim 17, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is inulin.

25 20. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 19, characterised in that the inulin has a DP ranging from 2 to 100.

21. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 20, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is selected from the group consisting of chicory inulin, agave inulin, dahlia inulin and Jerusalem artichoke inulin.